

CD NO.

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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## ADVANCES OF BULGARIAN INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

The "Ernst Telman" Spinning Mill, which began operating in 1951, alone increased the capacity of the spinning branch of the textile industry 26 percent. When it went into operation, the basic disproportion in the development of the textile industry was wiped out. The food industry is growing rapidly; in 1951, the volume of its output doubled in comparison with 1939.

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The plan for 1952 calls for a further growth in industrial output. The plan provides for an increase in the volume of industrial products of 24.4 percent in comparison with 1951. The production of electric power will increase 38.5 percent; the mining of coal 10.1 percent; the smelting of pig iron 111.5 percent; and the production of materials 17 percent. In 1952, the volume of production of Bulgarian industry will exceed by 16.4 percent the level planned for 1953, the last year of the Dimitrov Five-Year Plan.

The productivity of labor increased 13.9 percent in 1951 in comparison with 1950. Between 1944 and 1950, the number of workers in Bulgaria increased 70 percent.

The Five-Year Plan (1949 - 1953) provides for the establishment of 4,000 TKZS with a total arable area of 3 million hectares, which comprises about 60 percent of the total arable area in the country. Newly established TKZS are exempted from all taxes for 3 years. The state annually gives them loans and credits and provides them with agricultural machines.

As a result of the construction of irrigation systems, the irrigated area in the country increased from 37,500 hectares in 1944 to 112,800 hectares in 1950; i. e., it tripled. In 1950 and 1951, several irrigation systems were constructed. Large reservoirs are being constructed at the same time.

In the fall of 1951, the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria adopted a resolution for improving the country's forestry. This resolution is a detailed, prospective plan of afforestation and proper supervision of forestry and preservation of forests, in accordance with the teachings of Michurin-Vil'yams-Lysenko. The resolution provides for a 12-year period of forestation (from 1951 - 1963) on an area of 990,000 hectares. This means that the forest area in the country will increase almost one third.

In 1949, machines, equipment, and other production goods intended for the industrialization and electrification of the country and the development of transport and agriculture amounted to 38 percent of the total imports of Bulgaria. In 1950, the proportion of machines and equipment in Bulgarian imports increased to 40 percent, and in 1951 it went up to 45 percent. Bulgaria is importing, in large quantity, equipment for electric stations, transformer substations, plants and mining enterprises, and flotation installations, construction equipment, agricultural machines, and transportation equipment. In 1947 the proportion of tobacco exported amounted to 82 percent. In 1950 it has been reduced to 33 percent. In recent years a number of industrial commodities, which not too long ago had to be imported, have appeared in Bulgaria's exports.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria imports from the Soviet Union machines and equipment for machine-building plants, construction and transport equipment, agricultural machines, petroleum products, cotton, and industrial commodities. In turn, Bulgaria exports to the USSR ores and ferrous metal concentrates, tobacco, canned vegetables and fruits, essential oils, and lumber. In the period from 1947 - 1950 alone, Soviet-Bulgarian trade turnover doubled.

From Czechoslovakia Bulgaria imports machines and equipment for the electrical industry and electric stations, metal-cutting machines, construction and transport equipment; from Poland she gets ferrous metals, pipes, chemicals, railroad equipment, steam locomotives, railroad cars, machines tools and textile articles; Rumania sends her petroleum products and chemicals; from Hungary she gets railroad equipment, electrical materials, chemicals, and medicines. In exchange for the commodities received from the People's Democracies, Bulgaria exports to them tobacco, ores, hides, fresh and canned fruits and vegetables, seeds, and essential oils.

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In 1951 alone, Bulgaria's national income increased 30 percent in comparison with 1950, while in comparison with 1939 it practically doubled.

The people's purchasing power in 1951 increased almost 1.5 times in comparison with the prewar level. Proof of the increase in the welfare of Bulgarian workers lies in the steady increase of provisions and manufactured goods for the people. In 1951, the people were sold more commodities than in 1950; meat products, 46.3 percent more; rice, 44.7 percent more; vegetable oils, 37.2 more; ready-made clothing, 53.4 percent more; and shoes, 12.6 percent more.

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